

CH-8  
Old Friendship  
La Plata  
Private (open by appointment)

late 17th century

Moved to the campus of the Charles County Community College from its original location on Nanjemoy Creek, this small frame house has been reconstructed as the headquarters and museum of the Historical Society of Charles County.

The house contains two rooms and was built in two stages. The oldest section, believed to date from about 1680, displays a paneled chimney breast with bolection molding around the fireplace opening; a mantel shelf, corner cupboard, and corner stair are later 18th century additions. In the early 18th century the house was enlarged by the addition of a new room at one end. Before its move the house had a riven clapboard roof under later shingles, tilted false plates, a full-width front porch, and a stone walled cellar room under the later part of the house. The present chimneys were reconstructed to resemble the originals as closely as possible.

Friendship was owned by the Dent family for many generations and was formerly part of their extensive landholdings in the Nanjemoy area.

1. STATE <b>Maryland</b> COUNTY <b>Charles</b> TOWN <b>Friendship Landing</b> STREET NO.		HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY INVENTORY <b>CH - 8 09-0005104</b>
ORIGINAL OWNER <b>Dwelling</b> PRESENT OWNER <b>National Education Association</b> PRESENT USE <b>Vacant</b> WALL CONSTRUCTION <b>Frame</b> NO. OF STORIES <b>One</b>	2. NAME <b>Friendship</b> DATE OR PERIOD <b>18th century</b> STYLE <b>Colonial</b> ARCHITECT BUILDER	
3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE		

4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION      OPEN TO PUBLIC      NO

Friendship is a one-story frame structure in nearly ruinous condition. It sits on a stone and brick foundation. There is a basement under half of the structure which has vertical bar grills over the windows. The house is four bays long and one room deep. The two center bays are made up of six panelled doors and the two outer bays are six over nine windows. The frame is brick nogging, covered with beaded clapboard. There is a leanto porch. On the northeast gable is a freestanding chimney which at one time had a pent beside it. The chimney at the other gable has disappeared and is replaced with a small chimney within the building. The rear of the building has only two windows.

Beside the fireplaces are tall, narrow windows on the east side. The two rooms have a three-piece chair rail and ogee molding around the windows and doors. In the southwest room there is panelling above what used to be the fireplace with mantel and corner cabinet. There is also a narrow stair in the corner opposite the cabinet. The loft is divided into two rooms and hall with vertical tongue-and-groove boards with beaded battens. The doors had two panels.

5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE      Endangered		Interior	Exterior
 <i>(Port Tobacco Quad.)</i>			
6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)		7. PHOTOGRAPH	
8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages) INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.		9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER  <b>Paul Alan Brinkman Maryland Historical Trust</b> DATE OF RECORD <b>August 28, 1967</b>	
<u>Forman, H. Chandlee</u> <u>Old Buildings Gardens and Furniture in Tidewater Maryland, 1967</u> <u>pp. 215 - 219 and fig. 208</u>			

HABS-MDC

BUFF

Form 2C

VII.28.1959

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

Architect's Work Sheet for "Photo-data Books" (Part II)

Old "Friendship" House Nanjemoy, Charles Co.

name of structure

state, county, township, locality, etc.

2	frame	
number of stories	type wall construction	layout

GENERAL STATEMENT

Architectural interest and merit most valuable

Condition of fabric badly deteriorating

DETAILED DESCRIPTION 24'x36 $\frac{1}{2}$ ' EXTERIOR  
Overall demensions

Foundations Stone and brick walls, 18" thick  
wall construction <sup>height 6'</sup> clapboard covering brick

Porches, stoops, bulkheads, etc. 36'x18' 8".

Chimneys 34"x88" in Flemish bond  
One chimney has been removed.

Openings - doorways and doors 35"x7"

windows and shutters 18"x55" 3x5 and 2x5 lights,  
windowpanes 8"x10"

Roof - shave, covering wooden shingles, in very bad condition.  
cornices, eaves it is raining in, upper floor breaking down  
dormers, cupolas no dormers

INTERIOR

North Floor plans (by floor)

East Room 19' x 15' } 8' high

West Room 15' x 15' }

South Stairways steep, narrow, curved

Flooring wide pine boards

Wall and ceiling finish plaster

Doorways and doors

Trim wood, chair rails, corner cupboard

Hardware

Lighting ~~window panes~~ 3<sup>\*\*</sup> x 5<sup>\*\*</sup>

Heating (fireplaces, stoves, central, etc.) fireplaces 5' x 4', 4' x 7'

Orientation (by compass reading and general setting)

SITE

Facing East, toward

Nanjemoy Creek

Enclosures (fences, etc.)

Outbuildings barn : white oak inside, 16" poplar wooden pegs, handmade nails boards outside

Walks, driveways, etc.

Landscaping, gardens, etc. old trees, spacious lawn.

Prepared by Rita KarlssonDate Feb. 22, 1964

2nd Story:

19' x 15' } 6' high

11' x 12'

CONTINUATIONS: Any of the above entries may be continued on additional sheets.

# FRIENDSHIP HOUSE

HISTORIAN'S  
WORK SHEET

ADDRESS: THE ADDRESS FOR ALL STRUCTURES IN HAIS SHOULD BE AS COMPLETE AS POSSIBLE. THEY SHOULD BE LOCATED IN RELATION TO PERMANENT GEOGRAPHICAL FEATURES & TO PERMANENT, MARKED ROADS. EX APPROXIMATELY .3 mi. WEST OF PINEKE RIVER; 1.5 mi. SOUTH OF U.S. RT # 6.

PRESENT USE: IF THE STRUCTURE IS NOT IN USE, COULD SOME INDICATION BE GIVEN <sup>OF REASON</sup> FOR DISUSED OR PROJECTED USE ETC.

ORIGINAL & SUBSEQUENT OWNERS COULD DATES OF OWNERSHIP BE GIVEN?

THE REMAINING HISTORICAL DOCUMENTATION IS OBVIOUSLY INADEQUATE.

Architectural  
work sheet

Layout: Rectangular? Square?  
Wings?

Architectural interest & merit:

Can this gurgulation of  
"most valuable" be sub-  
stantiated? How? Why?

perhaps  
the word  
"gurus" should  
follow the name.  
Top of the nose.

PORCHES, ETC.: ARE THE  
DIMENSIONS GIVEN FOR A  
PORCH, A STOOP, A BULKHEAD?

ARE THERE OTHER PORCHES;  
CHIMNEYS: HOW MANY ARE, OR  
WING, THERE.

Doors etc.

MATERIAL OF DOORS?  
NUMBER OF PANELS?

WINDOWS:

NUMBER OF LIGHTS.

ROOF: GABLE, GAMBLER, HIPPED -  
ORIGINAL?

OR INDICATE "NOT APPLICABLE"  
SINCE IN RUNS.

FLOORING: RANDOM WIDTH? OR UNIFORM  
DOORS, DOORWAYS: MATERIAL? PANEL

CH-8

Trim: No decorative details?

Lighting: Not appropriate?

Heating: Maxium oil fireplace?

**HISTORICAL EVENTS CONNECTED WITH STRUCTURE**

William Dent gave the communion silver to Durham Church 1707, which is still in use.

Ships coming from England would land at 'Friendship Landing' below the house

Important old views  
(with location)

Sources of information  
(with location)

Likely sources not yet investigated Mrs. Preston Williams  
gave the original documents to the DAR Wash.  
D.C.

Prepared by Rita Karlsson

Date Feb. 22, 1964

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**INSTRUCTIONS FOR DOCUMENTATION**

Published references: Give author's full name, exact title from title page (underlined), publisher, place of publication, date, page references.

Manuscript references: Give location of manuscript and note if long-hand or typed. Cite "from," "to," date, etc.

Interviews: If information came from a personal interview, give complete name and address of informant.

CONTINUATIONS: Any of the above entries may be continued on additional sheets. Exact transcripts in quotes from pertinent documents are especially welcomed as appendices or otherwise.

HABS-HODC

BLUE

Form 3B

VII.15.1959

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

Historian's Work Sheet for "Photo-data Books" (Part I)

Name of Structure Friendship HouseAddress Nanjemoy, Charles Co. Maryland

State, county, township, locality, street address or location

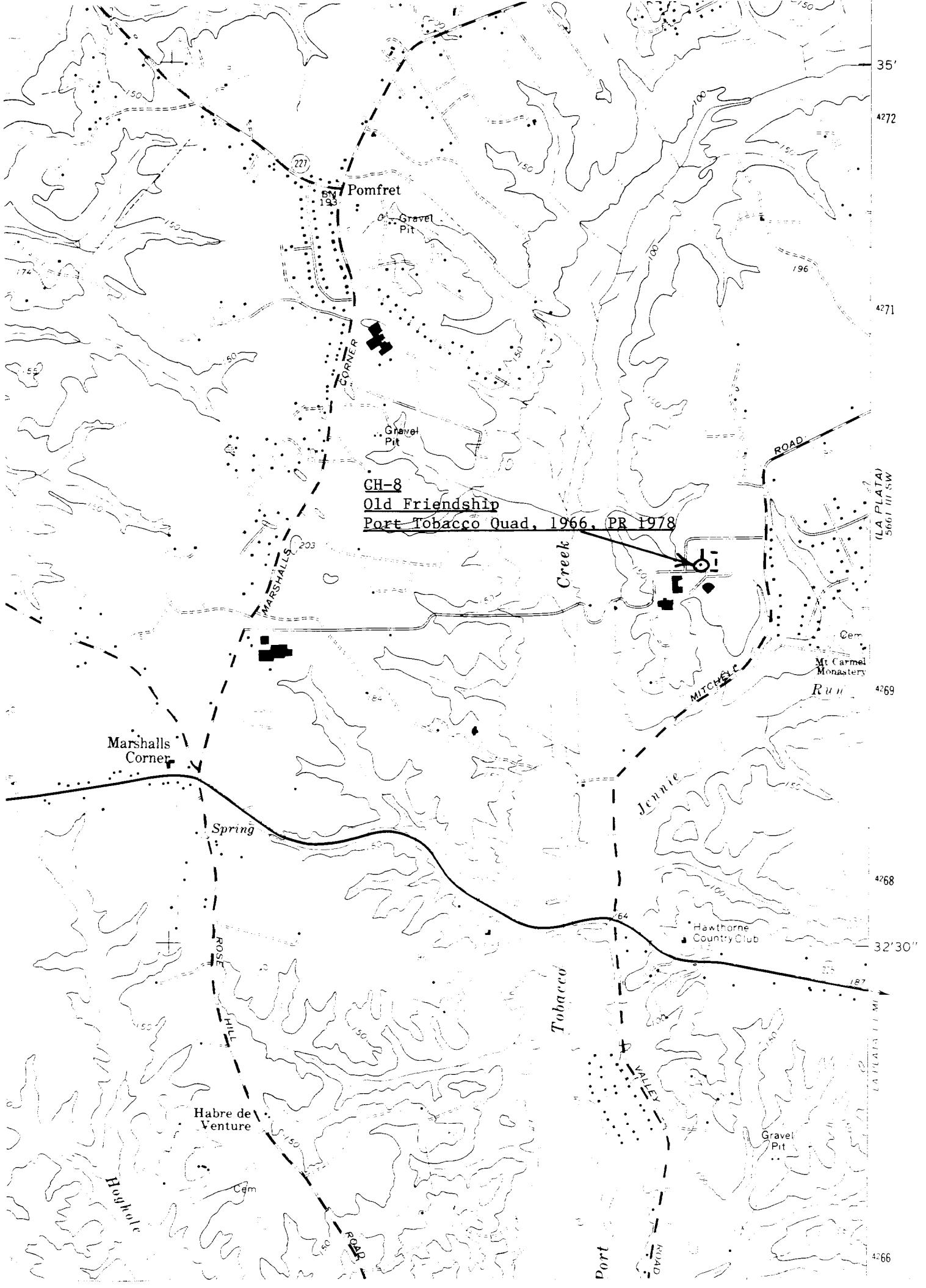
Present Owner (give address) National Education AssociationWash. D.C.Present Occupant —Present Use —Brief Statement of Significance (historical): Original Patentee "Guyther,"  
1662 acquired by Thomas Dent + William Hatton

Indenture 5-20-1685 Earliest grave stone 1672

(PHYSICAL HISTORY) All statements shall be documented

Original and subsequent owners Bennett Hoskins  
Thomas Dent + William Hatton  
and heirsDate of Erection Samuel Mc Pherson —  
Architect Joseph Claggett Gray —  
Builder, suppliers, etc. Paul Gray  
Charles H. Shamel  
National Education Assoc.Original plans, construction, etc. 1948

Notes on alterations and additions





Old Friendship House

Charles C. CH-8



B-HO

Old Friendship House  
Charles G.

Front during disassembly



CH-8 OLD FRIENDSHIP  
ca. 1968 - M.O.B. SE facade



Old Friendship House  
Charles Co.

CH-8

J-MQ

Paneling above fireplace



Old Friendship House  
Charles C.

C-H-8



Old Friendship House -  
Charles C.

8-HD



Old Friends Inn House -

Charles Co.

CH-8

Stairway



Red Tree Lamp House  
Charles C.

8-HO



Old Sundship House -  
Charles C

8 - H.O

Fireplace



Old Sandys House  
Charles G.

8-40